

Ways & Means

I want to introduce myself to those who do not know me. I am Loretta Pressel and my husband, Ron, and myself live near Walkerton. We grow and craft gourds. I was Way's and Mean's chairperson three years ago but, had to give it up because of other meetings conflicts. At the State Fair, this year, I volunteered to take the position back. I really like doing this job, it's fun, interesting and I can meet a lot of people.

The Way's and Mean's do make a lot of profit on the articles that we sell. We want you to be able to purchase IGS logo clothes at a reasonable price. Where we make the money is on the articles that you donate. So, please remember to bring donations for our Way's and Mean's booth, at the State Show, in South Bend in April. We sold \$327.75 at the Fall Meeting/Festival in Lafayette. This was great! Wishing all you GOURDHEADS a Happy and Blessed Holidays!!!! Loretta Pressel, Way's And Mean's chairperson

Upcoming Elections

After the Spring Membership meeting of May 3, 2008, an official Board Meeting will be conducted, which will include the election process for the following offices; President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and two Directors positions.

The bylaws call for the President to appoint a nominating committee to select candidates from the membership. Members should then submit their information to this committee. The nominating committee then presents a slate of candidates to the general membership for election at the Spring meeting.

We are trying to give you a lot of time to think this over also. We need to get more of the general membership involved in the ongoing processes of making our society better.

So, this is a great opportunity to **VOLUNTEER**. If interested please submit your name for consideration. But, if not interested in trying for one of the offices, please come to the meeting and vote for YOUR selection of candidates.

As in any political election it is the participation of the citizens that make the processes work. This is the case in the IGS also. Come, participate, enjoy!

Quick Tips If you happen to open a gourd that is filled with soft, fluffy, off-white "cotton," pull the fiber out gently with your hand. There will still be soft remnants clinging to an otherwise nice hard mother of pearl finish. What to do? very carefully scrape away the soft fibers, and underneath the dullness is hard shiny mother of pearl. In places, it may not be perfectly smooth. The surface may have been gouged or coming off in layers, still pretty, but a looking a bit fly-away and imperfect. Mix one part Elmer's glue to two parts water, and paint the inside with a foam brush. Doing so will put a hard finish on the softer white parts, tacking them down so they are not prone to further damage. The glue mixture will dry clear and shiny just like the "good" mother of pearl with no discoloration, and now you have a true gem on your hands.

Note: I cut open about fourteen of these this year. Had seen the mother of pearl before on rare occasions but never a gourd filled with the soft cottony fiber.

Mary Gayle Van Ingen - Milwaukie, Oregon

LAST Notice: Tendril Moving to Electronic Delivery—Get your info in if you want paper copies mailed!

As you may have read in the last issue of the Tendril, the cost of printing and postage have forced us to go to electronic delivery. This has several advantages: you'll get the issue about 2-3 weeks sooner, and it will be IN COLOR.

There is a new area on the website at www.indianagourdsociety.org called **MemberLogin**. When you click here, you'll see a page with a login and

password. **Your login is the ID number on the top line of your Tendril label. Your password is your zip code (5 digits only).** You'll be able to see back issues of the Tendril, and other information for members only. Be sure to contact **Dallas Lunsford, 317 Maple Court, Kokomo, Indiana, 46902, or call 765-453-0247, or eMail him at igsmembership@insightbb.com** if you do **NOT** want electronic delivery.

We'll still print a copy and mail it to you - but it will be black and white. **This change will take effect with the first issue in 2008**, as we get the bugs worked out of the system.